

Application No.: 09/750,465

Docket No.: JCLA6707

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action objected the Drawings and claims 4-6. The Office Action further rejected claims 1-6. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Higaki (US 5,796,970), rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higaki in view of Brown (US003634658) and Mitsuhiro et al. (US005561816A), and rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhiro et al. and further in view of McAlister et al. (US004348741). In another respect, the Office Action rejected claims 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higaki in view of Brown, and rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhiro. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and states clearly how the claimed subject matter distinguishes from the Higaki, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Office Action Objections

The Office Action objected the Drawing and claim 4. In order to correct the informalities, Fig.1 and claim 4 is amended as stated above according to suggestion proposed by the Office Action.

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Discussion of Office Action Rejections

[35 USC 112 discussion]

The Office Action rejected claims 4-6 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. In order to overcome the rejection, the applicants have amended claim 4 as set forth above, and no new matter is entered.

[35 USC 102 discussion]

To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach each and every element of the claim. M.P.E.P. § 2131. After entering the amendment in the claims, claim 4 is patentable over Higaki at least because the Higaki does not disclose the feature of “...**receiving the initial count value and generating** a plurality of register identification number identical in number to the initial count value...” as claimed in claim 4. More specifically, as described in item 13 in rejection reasons of the Office Action, the adding operation is performed by element 214 in Higaki and the generating register ID number operation is performed by element 202, 204 in Higaki, wherein **element 202 and 204 did not receive the result outputted from the element 214**. In other words, Higaki did not disclose a methodology for generating the register ID number from a received adding result. Therefore, Higaki did not disclose, teach or suggest the technique feature as claimed in claim 4 and Higaki does not anticipate claim 4.

For at least the same reason, claim 6 is not anticipated by Higaki as a matter of law since Higaki does not anticipate claim 4, which is depended by claim 6.

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[35 U.S.C. 103 discussion]

After entering the amendment in the claims, claim 1 is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhiro at least because combination of Higaki, Brown and Mitsuhiro does not disclose, teach or suggest the feature of "...a counter connecting to the adder for receiving the initial count value, decreasing the value by one after outputting a count control signal..." as claimed in claim 1. More specifically, as stated above, adder (element 214 in Higaki) did not connect to the down counter (including circuitry within the priority encoder circuit that generates the bit detection continuation signal 3, the group processing continuation signal generation circuit 210, and the register processing completion detection circuit 211 as described in Page 10 of the Office Action). According to Fig.4 and related description in Higaki, **element 214 (adder) did not output anything to the down counter defined by the Office Action.** Even combining with Brown and Mitsuhiro, those with ordinary skill can not obtain an apparatus for executing block data transfer instruction inside a processor after receiving decode information containing N bits, which has an adder for receiving the N-bit decode information and adding the N bits together to produce an initial count value and a counter connecting to the adder for receiving the initial count value, decreasing the value by one after outputting a count control signal. In other words, those with ordinary skill may implement an adder suggested by Brown and a down counter suggested by Mitsuhiro, but they cannot achieve the connection relationship between the adder and the down counter as claimed in claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore patentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhiro.

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For at least the same reason, claim 2 is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhira as a matter of law since claim 1, which is depended by claim 2, is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhira.

The Office Action rejected claim 3 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhira, and further in view of McAlister. However, although the priority encoder suggested by McAlister may be implemented into Higaki, those with ordinary skill can not achieve the connection relationship between the adder and the down counter as claimed in claim 1, which is depended by claim 3. Therefore, claim 3 is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown, Mitsuhira, and McAlister.

The Office Action further rejected claims 4 and 6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higaki in view of Brown. However, as stated above, Higaki at least does not disclose the feature of “...receiving the initial count value and generating a plurality of register identification number identical in number to the initial count value...” as claimed in claim 4. Even Brown is combined with Higaki, those with ordinary skill still can not obtain the feature claimed in claim 4 since Brown only discloses how to implement the adding operation and Higaki did not disclose a methodology for generating the register ID number from a received adding result. Therefore, claim 4 is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown.

For at the same reason, claim 6 is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown as a matter of law since claim 4, which is depended by claim 6, is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown.

The Office Action further rejected claims 5 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higaki in view of Brown and further in view of Mitsuhira. However, as stated above, Higaki

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in view of Brown did not disclose, teach or suggest claim 4, which is depended by claim 5. Those with ordinary skill can only improve the counting operation by combining Mitsuhiro, but they can not achieve a methodology for generating the register ID number from a received adding result. Therefore, combination of Higaki, Brown and Mitsuhiro did not disclose, teach or suggest claim 5, and claim 5 is patentable over Higaki in view of Brown and Mitsuhiro.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-6 patently define over the prior art reference, and should be allowed.

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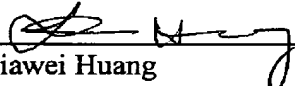
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-6 are in proper condition for allowance. Further, newly added claim 7 is believed to be patentable over the prior art of record because claim 7 claims likely technique feature as claims 1 and 4, and further includes other technique features. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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